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WHOLE No. 2545.

TEXT OF HATCH BILL NOW BEFORE THE LOWER HOUSE

A Summary of the Measure Given by U. S. District Attorney Breckons—Kuhio Introduces It—Town Meeting Tonight.

Yesterday W. O. Smith received a cablegram from F. M. Hatch at Washington announcing that the bill ratifying Hawaii's County law had been introduced the day before by Delegate Kuhio and had been favorably received.

TEXT OF HATCH BILL.

Following is as near the text of the County Act enabling bill, introduced in Congress by Delegate Kuhio, as District Attorney R. W. Breckons can quote from memory, he having given the only two copies to Mr. Hatch:

An Act to Legalize the County Act of the Legislature of Hawaii and the Election Held Thereunder.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

Sec. 1. That Act 31 of the Session of 1903 of the Legislature of the Territory of Hawaii, approved by the Governor of Hawaii on April 22, A. D. 1903, and entitled, "An Act Providing for the organization and Government of Counties and Districts, and the Management and Control of Public Works and Public Institutions Therein," is hereby approved and declared to be a law of the Territory of Hawaii, notwithstanding any inconsistency of its provisions with "An Act to Provide a Government for the Territory of Hawaii," passed by the Fifty-sixth Congress of the United States of America on the 27th day of April, and approved on the 30th day of April, A. D. 1900.

Sec. 2. That the election held in the Territory of Hawaii on the 3rd day of November, A. D. 1903, under and by virtue of the terms of said Act of the Legislature of Hawaii is hereby legalized.

Sec. 3. That nothing in this Act contained shall be in any sense construed to deprive the Legislature of the Territory of Hawaii of the power to alter, amend or repeal the said Act of the said Legislature.

Sec. 4. That this Act should take effect from and after the date of the approval thereof.

CUSTOMS AND NAVY OFFICERS HAD A LITTLE DIFFERENCE

The differences between the customs and naval officers regarding the right of the customs men to prevent the landing of dutiable goods from naval vessels have been settled. Admiral Terry and Collector Stackable had a conference a few days ago at which whatever differences there might have been were amicably arranged.

The naval officials have always objected to the customs inspectors' surveillance of war vessels while in port. It was the claim of both Admiral Terry and Admiral Whiting, while they commanded the Honolulu naval station, that the inspectors had no right to watch warships as they did other vessels, and there has always been considerable controversy in regard to the matter. When the cruiser New York was here about a year ago quite a row was raised because one of the inspectors stopped an officer who was going ashore with a valise, and insisting on searching it. Admiral Rodgers complained both to the Admiral here and to the Navy Department, but nothing was ever heard here about the complaint. Later, on the last trip of

the Solace to San Francisco a new objection was raised. Admiral Terry protested against the seeming discourtesy to the navy in having men stationed on the naval wharf while the Solace was in port. He contended that the wharf was naval property and the inspectors had no right to go upon it without his permission. He conceded the right of the inspectors to prevent violation of the customs regulations but said as a matter of courtesy his permission should first be obtained before going upon the wharf.

The view taken by the customs authorities is that they are sworn to protect the United States laws and that they are given the duty of preventing the landing of dutiable articles. As naval vessels from the Orient generally are loaded down with cigars and other dutiable articles they are compelled to keep an even closer watch than on merchant ships who are compelled to file a manifest.

The result of the conference between Admiral Terry and Collector Stackable is said to have been very satisfactory on both sides and hereafter there will be no trouble in regard to the inspection of war vessels of the navy.

NEW YORK SUN TELLS WHY ASIATIC FLEET COMES HERE

The New York Sun publishes the following Washington dispatch giving the reasons for the cruise of the Asiatic fleet to Honolulu:

WASHINGTON, Nov. 21.—While it will be denied that the Navy Department is making any preparation for possible hostilities with Colombia, it is only reasonable to interpret orders issued by the Department for the Asiatic fleet to cruise to Honolulu as being a timely preparation for such a contingency. The orders direct Rear Admiral Evans to proceed to Honolulu with the battleship and cruiser squadrons under the command of Rear Admiral Cooper and himself. The explanation of the orders is that it is desired to have the fleet try a long cruise for the purpose of drill and that the usual midwinter maneuvers will take place on the voyage, instead of in the waters of China and the Philippines.

Honolulu is not within the limits of

the Asiatic station, to which Admiral Evans's fleet is attached, but is included within the Pacific station, commanded by Rear Admiral Glass, who is now at Panama with most of his ships. Honolulu is nearly 4000 miles from any part of the Asiatic station, and that much nearer to Panama.

The ships of the North Atlantic fleet will start for the West Indies in about a week, and the ships of the South Atlantic squadron are coming north to attend the annual winter maneuvers, which are to be held this year in the vicinity of Porto Rico and the southeast coast of Cuba, within a few days run of the Isthmus.

While the administration is evidently not placing the navy on a war basis, it is taking no chances in meeting any contingency that may arise, a fact very evident from the distribution of the ships of all squadrons with the exception of the European, at points within easy reach of either Panama or Colon.

CURTIS LAUKEA WILL HAVE TO GIVE A LARGE BOND

Supervisors Will Require Surety for Nearly Four Hundred Thousand Dollars Before He Can Take His Office.

Curtis P. Laukea will have to give a bond of nearly \$400,000 if he wants to serve as assessor for the County of Oahu. While the Supervisors have not of course acted upon the matter they have received information as to the amount of the bond required and it will be not less than \$390,000, for both the county treasurer and assessor.

The county act provides that "The amount of bonds of the Treasurer and Assessor and Tax Collector shall not be less than the greatest amount of money shown by the books of the county to have been in the hands of the officer at any one time during the preceding year."

Assessor Pratt had as much as \$390,000 in his hands during the month of November and the supervisors will calculate the amount of the assessor's bond upon that basis. "As there is no officer similar to a county treasurer under the Territorial administration, Treasurer Damon will be asked to give bond in the same amount as the assessor."

The bond in each case must be approved by the Board of Supervisors.

In the case of Supervisors, the circuit judge must signify his approval.

The supervisors will probably meet within a day or two now that the Supreme Court has decided the election contest. This deterred some of the supervisors from action in the belief that the officers might be tied up in the courts. Now there is nothing in the way and the supervisors intend to go right ahead and let the county act fight take care of itself.

The county act requires that the supervisors meet on the first Monday in December to pass upon the bonds of county officers, but this is thought to refer to next year, as legally, the Board of Supervisors is not now in existence. The county is required to bear the expense of bonds so it is not on that account that the Home Rule officers have had trouble in getting security. The surety companies are a little afraid of the class of men elected to some of the offices, and although there is a lot of competition for the business, the trust companies are not going on the bonds of men who will require the services of a detective for the entire term.

CHANCE NOW FOR ENLISTMENT

There is a splendid opportunity now for men and boys to enlist in the navy here, and get a trip to China and Japan in the bargain. Men who are enlisted now by Captain Rodman will be transferred to the vessels of the fleet when they arrive and they will have a chance at sea duty immediately.

What are most desired in the navy at present are skilled mechanics and machinists, carpenters, etc., and they will be enlisted at the naval station provided that they fill all other requirements. Hawaiians who have knowledge of seamanship will also be taken on.

Solace is Coming.

The naval transport Solace will sail for Honolulu next Monday. She is bringing supplies for the Asiatic fleet. Altogether she will have three months' supplies for the ships. A Valjejo dispatch says: Telegraphic orders were received at the navy yard this morning to prepare three months' supplies for the various departments of each ship of the squadron of the Asiatic station, which is expected to arrive at Honolulu shortly. The telegram states that requisitions will arrive here on December 12 and that the transport Solace is to be held here until the stores can be prepared and placed aboard her for shipment.

The supplies will comprise those for the departments of ordnance, construction and repairs, supplies and accounts, equipment and steam engineering for the battleships Kentucky, Ore-

HOW THE NEWS WAS RECEIVED

The town had a lively sensation yesterday morning when the MacArthur story came out and the people, as usual at such times, took sides at once as to the authenticity of the report and the propriety of its publication. Efforts were made by the evening papers to get denials from Gen. MacArthur and Gov. Carter but without much result. The General said the report was unauthorized and did not express his views and the Governor said it had been taken by the Advertiser reporter from manuscript which had been given him merely to consult for data about a new armory. During the day there were many conferences, General MacArthur and Col. Jones getting together at the Young Hotel. The Governor also conferred with a number of his personal and political friends.

Great interest was shown in the matter abroad. In the morning the Associated Press sent to its agent here for a 250 word report, following the one of the previous night, upon the manner in which the information had been obtained and published. A second morning order also came to him. It is said that the Washington line was kept hot with demands for explanations and with responses and that the Cable company made a lot of extra Christmas money.

The Germans were intensely wrought up and they sent many papers abroad. They say the Berlin Foreign Office is certain to be heard from.

gon and Wisconsin and the cruisers New Orleans, Albany, Cincinnati and Raleigh.

(ASSOCIATED PRESS CABLEGRAMS)

STRATFORD, Conn., Dec. 10.—Admiral Gherardi died here today.

ADEN, Dec. 10.—The Somali troops of the British force have joined Mad Mullah.

MONTE CARLO, Dec. 10.—It is reported that Baron Arthur de Rothschild is dead.

PARIS, Dec. 10.—Czar Nicholas has approved the conditions of the preliminary agreement with Japan.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—Austria and Denmark have formally recognized the Republic of Panama.

GUANTANAMO, Cuba, Dec. 10.—American officers today took possession of the naval station at Guantanamo.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 10.—The Tokio dispatch that Russian warships have arrived at Chemulpo to make demands upon Korea is discredited in official circles.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—The Senate Committee on Commerce presented a report today favoring an appropriation of \$225,000 for a revenue cutter to be stationed at Honolulu.

TOKIO, Dec. 10.—The Japanese Diet was opened today by the Emperor with the usual formalities. The speech from the throne was of a distinctly peaceful character, and evidenced an intent to prevent radical action during the critical period of Japan's international troubles.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—General Reyes, the Colombian Commissioner, has received pacific cablegrams from Colombia, leading to the hope that the Bogota government will be satisfied with financial compensation for the loss of Panama.

DEATH BY FIRE THREATENS THE ENGLISH QUEEN

Escapes From Burning Bedroom Just Before the Floor Collapses—Omaha Indictments. Japanese Ministerial Crisis.

(ASSOCIATED PRESS CABLEGRAMS.)

LONDON, Dec. 11.—A fire in Queen Alexandra's bedroom, Sandringham, occurred during the night. The Queen was aroused by her Secretary, Miss Knollys, and both escaped in their nightgowns a few moments before the floor collapsed. There was great excitement but small damage.

OMAHA GRAND JURY GRINDS BIG GRIST

OMAHA, Dec. 11.—The Grand Jury has found true bills against ex-Senator Lowe on a charge of conspiracy to bribe U. S. Senator Dietrich to secure the appointment of a postmaster. Former Senator Curry and several wealthy cattlemen have also been indicted for the illegal fencing of government land to the area of six million acres.

COUNTESS DIVORCED FROM A COACHMAN

LONDON, Dec. 11.—The Countess Russell has been divorced from her coachman-husband, alias the Prince of Mokena.

The Countess Russell has been prominently before the public in divorce suit litigation for over ten years. Originally she was Miss Mabel Edith Scott, youngest daughter of Sir Claude Edward Scott. Her married life with Earl Russell was a stormy one and in 1891 she sued him for divorce. Her charges were based upon cruelty. She lost the case and the Judge took the unusual course of requiring her to pay the costs, amounting to more than \$25,000. As a result of that suit the Earl obtained a judicial separation. The Countess Russell in 1895 successfully sued for the restoration of her conjugal rights, withdrawing the charges which she made in the divorce suit. In 1900 the Earl went to Nevada, obtained a divorce under the laws of that State and married a Mrs. Somerville. This divorce was not recognized in England and the Earl was immediately charged with bigamy and the Countess given a divorce on those grounds. The Earl later returned to England, stood trial for bigamy, pleaded guilty and served a three months' sentence. A coachman, who posed as Prince Arthobald Mokena, then married the Countess. He disappeared several months ago but was finally captured, tried on various charges and sentenced to prison.

JAPANESE HOUSE ARRAIGNS CABINET

TOKYO, Dec. 11.—The House of Representatives has passed a resolution in reply to the speech from the throne stating that the course of the Cabinet is incompatible with the progress of the empire, that its diplomacy has been a failure and that it is advisable that the Emperor should review the situation.

ALFONSO'S FIRST VISIT.

LISBON, Dec. 11.—King George welcomed King Alfonso to Portugal with imposing ceremonies.

THE FLORA SAFE.

VICTORIA, Dec. 11.—H. M. S. Flora has been floated.

THE TOWN MEETING AT THE ORPHEUM TONIGHT

The town meeting for the discussion of the county act will be held at the Orpheum tonight. The resolutions previously published will be presented and will no doubt arouse considerable discussion.

G. W. Smith will preside and the meeting will be opened at 7:30 o'clock. No set program has been arranged and after the introduction of the resolutions the meeting will be open to all. A raid by the Ashford-Colburn crowd is still expected.